

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Kerry White, on January 6, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Kerry White, Chair (R)
Rep. Zach Brown, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Theresa Manzella, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Bob Brown (R)
Rep. Virginia Court (D)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. John Fleming (D)
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Mark Noland (R)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lexi Goble, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary: Organizational meeting

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation:

00:01:18 Chair White

00:04:31 John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT\(nah05a01\)](#)[EXHIBIT\(nah05a02\)](#)

00:22:10 Chair White

00:22:15 John Tubbs, DNRC

00:22:27 Chair White

00:23:01 John Tubbs, DNRC

00:23:11 Chair White

00:23:16 John Tubbs, DNRC

00:23:37 Chair White

00:23:42 Rep. Gunderson

00:23:55 John Tubbs, DNRC

00:24:17 Jim Halvorson, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:24:39 Rep. Gunderson

00:24:45 Jim Halvorson, DNRC

00:24:50 Rep. Gunderson

00:25:02 Jim Halvorson, DNRC

00:25:25 Chair White

00:25:29 Rep. Flynn

00:25:55 John Tubbs, DNRC

00:28:10 Chair White

00:28:42 John Tubbs, DNRC

00:30:15 Chair White

00:30:48 John Tubbs, DNRC

00:31:45 Chair White

00:32:04 John Tubbs, DNRC

00:33:37 Chair White

00:33:41 Rep. Noland

00:35:04 John Tubbs, DNRC

00:35:15 Chair White

Review of Fire Seasons:

00:35:41 Bob Harrington, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT\(nah05a03\)](#)[EXHIBIT\(nah05a04\)](#)

00:52:30 Chair White

00:52:37 Vice Chair. Z. Brown

00:53:04 Bob Harrington, DNRC

00:55:11 Chair White

00:55:15 Rep. Flynn

00:55:35 Bob Harrington, DNRC

00:56:19 Rep. Flynn

00:56:33 Bob Harrington, DNRC

00:58:58 Chair White

00:59:02 Rep. Court

00:59:48 Bob Harrington, DNRC

01:00:34 Chair White
 01:00:36 Rep. Gunderson
 01:01:04 John Tubbs, DNRC
 01:03:03 Chair White
 01:03:06 Rep. Curdy
 01:03:43 John Tubbs, DNRC
 01:03:51 Rep. Curdy
 01:04:28 John Tubbs, DNRC
 01:04:35 Chair White

Update of Forests in Focus:

01:06:15 Bob Harrington, DNRC
 01:08:54 Chair White
 01:09:08 Bob Harrington, DNRC
 01:15:12 Chair White
 01:15:59 Bob Harrington, DNRC
 01:16:10 Chair White

Board of Oil and Gas Conservation:

01:16:31 Jim Halvorson, DNRC

EXHIBIT(nah05a05)

01:41:10 Vice Chair Manzella
 01:41:40 Rep. Gunderson
 01:42:15 Jim Halvorson, DNRC
 01:42:43 Vice Chair Manzella

Brief Introduction to Water Law:

01:43:12 Joe Kolman, Legal Services Division (LSD)
 01:57:48 Chair White
 01:58:09 Russell McElyea, Chief Water Judge
 02:10:21 Chair White
 02:10:34 Rep. Fitzgerald
 02:11:00 Russell McElyea, Chief Water Judge
 02:11:21 Chair White
 02:11:33 Milly Heffner, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

EXHIBIT(nah05a06)

02:24:10 Chair White
 02:24:16 Vice Chair. Z. Brown
 02:24:32 Millie Heffner, DNRC
 02:25:12 John Tubbs, DNRC
 02:25:44 Millie Heffner, DNRC
 02:26:02 Chair White

Overview of Water Policy Interim Committee Activity:

02:26:25 Joe Kolman, LSD
 02:33:26 Chair White
 02:33:42 Rep. B. Brown
 02:34:59 Vice Chair. Z. Brown

02:37:42 Chair White

Public Comments:

02:38:11 Alan Olson, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)

02:46:00 Chair White

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 02:46:30

Lexi Goble, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah05aad.pdf](#))